

DAY ONE - 2017-2018

Carr Lane VPA News & Views



November 2017

No. 1

Faculty and staff with Principal Taylor (white shirt, front row, right) following the first full day for students on August 16, 2017.



6th Grade Writing Teacher, Ms. Gallion, 6th Grade Math Teacher and 6th Grade Team-Leader, Ms. Wagaman and 6th Grade Resource Teacher, Ms. Watson, stand-in for a photo of the very first day of the 2017-2018 school year in the CLVPA cafeteria. It was a super-great first day at Carr Lane VPA!!!



CLVPA Assistant Principal, Mr. Ferrar, Fine Arts Band Director, Mr. Stith, and Ms. Parker, Fine Arts Dance Director.



Ms. Watson and 6th Grade Science Teacher, Ms. Edwards.



6th Grade English Language Arts Teacher, Ms. Grove and Mr. Stith in the CLVPA on the first day of school



Mr. Gully, Carr Lane's PBIS Coordinator and Ms. Wagaman.



Principal Taylor and 6th Grade ELA and Writing Teacher, Ms. Gallion, in the CLVPA cafeteria on the first day of school.



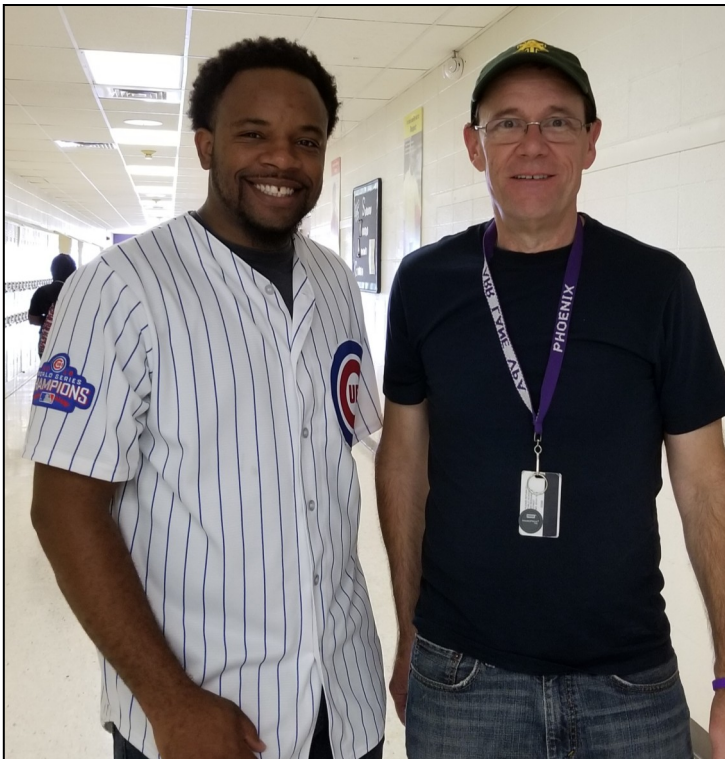
Ms. Watson, Ms. Hopp and Ms. Cotton at the close of the very first day of school for Carr Lane VPA students, 8-16-17!



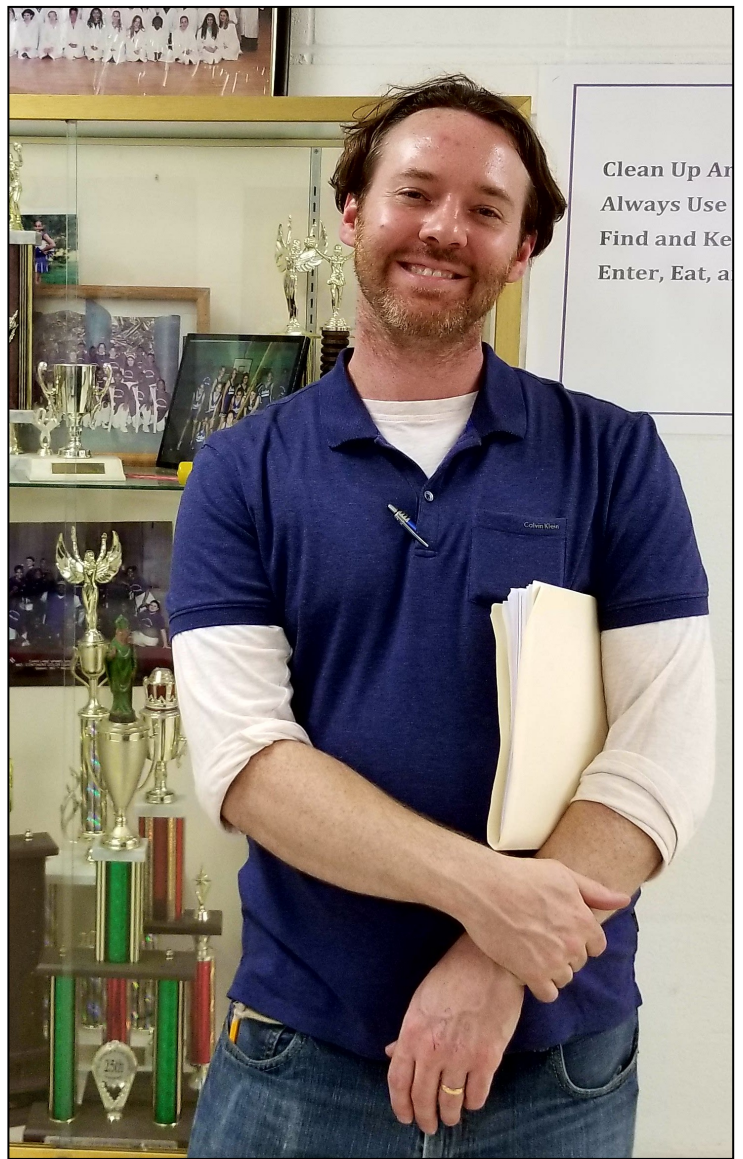
6th Grade teacher, Mr. Irwin!



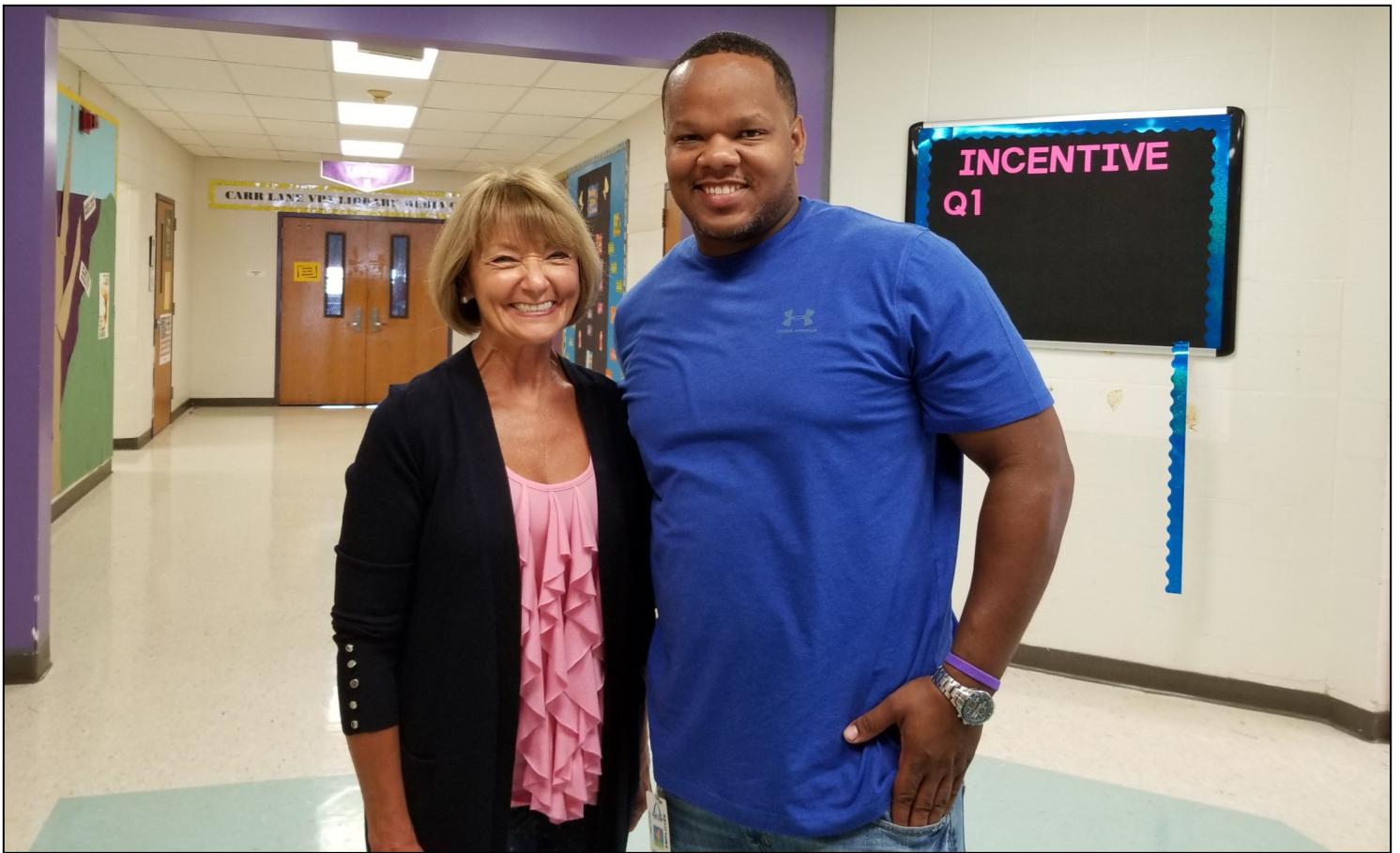
Something good to eat in the morning!



8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, Mr. Jude with Dr. Phoenix, who teaches Computer Literacy and 6th grade writing courses.



Carr Lane VPA welcomes Mr. Graham, our new 6th Grade Team Member and Social Studies teacher on the third floor!



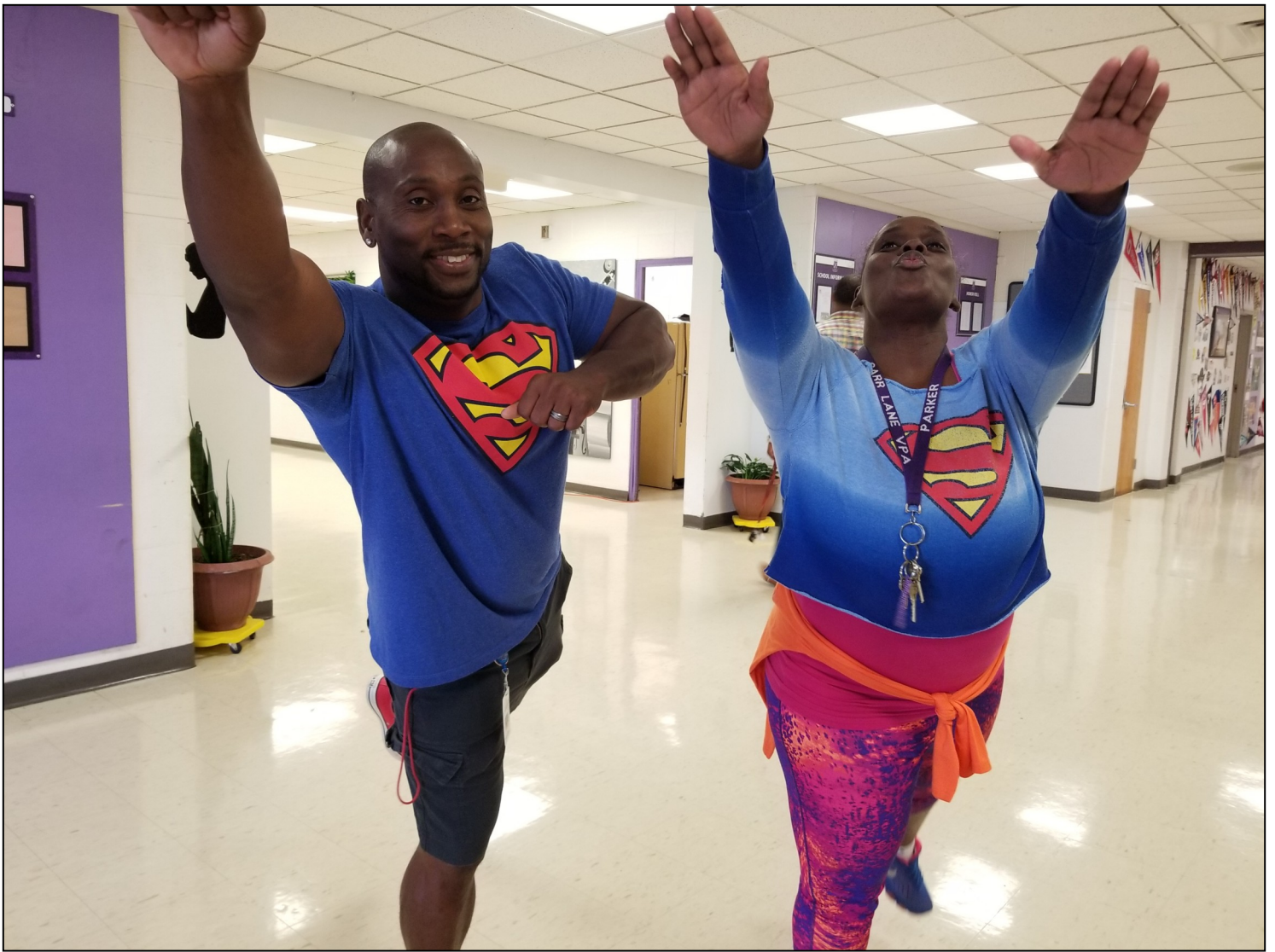
Outside his domain. Carr Lane VPA Choir Director and Fine Arts Team Leader, Ms. Alfermann in a photo on the third floor with Mr. Bass, Head of the Carr Lane VPA Library and Media Center on the third floor. The doors to the CLVPA Library stand in the background of this picture, at the end of the 6th Grade Hall on the third floor in the Southwest corner of the building.



English Language Arts Teachers, Ms. Ward and Ms. Kurth. These CLVPA teachers are in the cafeteria on Friday, October 13, 2017 for the school-based session of the District-Wide Professional Development Day. It was a “day-off” for students.



Ms. Choate, Carr Lane VPA’s visual art teacher!



They're SUPER! Look! Up in the sky... Mr. Folkes and Ms. Parker! Mr. Folkes is one of CLVPA's Physical Education teachers. Ms. Parker is the school's director of CLVPA's dance program. Both of these CLVPA teachers make it a point to stay fit!!!



Science and Math!!! Mr. Fox teaches 7th grade Science and Mr. Risch teaches 8th grade mathematics. These are two subjects scholars in the 21st Century cannot do without!



7th grade Mathematics Teacher, Ms. Jarrell and 6th Grade Resource Teacher, Ms. Watson, at a Professional Development day.

WRITING CORNER

Do you like to write? Maybe you do, maybe you would rather do something else, but writing is an important skill. Like speaking, reading, and listening — writing, since the earliest times, has been the chief way that cultures and civilizations preserve what they have learned about life and the world. Writing — symbolic, iconic and indexical texts — have helped human beings move forward, to pass-on what they learned (from those who came before) and to make their own contributions to future generations.

Some people have said, “Writing is thinking on paper.” Others have argued that people don’t really know what they think or believe about a given subject until they have put it into writing.

At Carr Lane VPA, Principal Taylor and his English Arts Teachers have a renewed commitment to the teaching of writing. Dr. Phoenix volunteered to take on a few, small writing classes to help out in the mornings. The following writings are gathered from some of his 6th Grade Writing Students.

This year, writing students — 6th through 8th grade — will use the Step Up to Writing curriculum to practice three types of writing: Explanatory, Argumentative, and Narrative. In the first weeks of class, Dr. Phoenix’s students dusted off their writing skills with some descriptive paragraphs.

MY SOLAR STAR

by Aariah, Period 2

My solar star: The Sun. It is important to me because it always brightens my day. The Sun wakes me up every morning. I love the way it shines upon me with its red and yellow glowing light. And it can also make the sky light blue. Also, it is the biggest star in my world. I love my star, my sun.

I WANT A DOG

by Anthony, Period 3

I love dogs. I always wanted one. It’s like my best friend to me. I always wanted one and I still want one. The colors of the dog are black, white, and brown. A dog has my heart. Dogs are everything to me.

FAVORITE COLOR

by Christian, Period 3

I like color blue because I think it is a cool color. I like the color red because part of my family likes the color red. Once we all gathered around and we each told our favorite color and most of us said “red.” I like the dark color because the light colors looks fancy and I don’t like fancy, light clothes. I like darker cloths better. Red: I like the dark color red.

MY DRAWING BOOK

by Hadessah, Period 3

My favorite personal item is my drawing book. My drawing book is my favorite because it has all of my best drawings. My drawing book is blue with white flowers and a green bookmark. It is filled with pictures of mostly people, but there are some dogs in there. Another reason why I like my drawing book is that I can look back on how my pictures were when I first got my book, and how I improved since then. So, my drawing book is important to me, and I wouldn’t trade it for anything.

MY XBOX

by Isaiah, Period 3

My favorite object is my Xbox. I like it because it's fun to play. It's made of metal. It's black and white. Also, when you power on, it turns green.

NUGGET THE BUNNY

by Xzandria, Period 1

One important item to me is my stuffed bunny, named Nugget. I named him Nugget after a game character I love. I gave him a girly voice. He's yellow and has flower print on his feet and in his ears. He also has a black tie around his neck. I talk to him when I need someone to talk to. I give good advice to myself. I love Nugget!

BASKETBALL

by Ronnie, Period 2

I am writing about a basketball. Basketball is the coolest thing to do when you are bored. It has black strips and the color is orange. The basketball goes up and down. It can go inside a hoop. You can train to a good basketball player.

Students worked on paragraphs, the building blocks of prose. They practiced writing strong, topic sentences, making clear to the reader what they would be covering in their paragraphs. Next, they added supporting details, ending with strong, concluding sentences. Along the way, they studied different types of sentences — simple, compound, complex and compound-complex. Next, students tried putting it all together in writing their first EXPLANATORY paragraphs.

Many 6th grade students had never been responsible for a school locker or had ever been called upon to open a combination lock. Can you open a combination lock? Could you explain, in writing, how to do it? Princess, writing in 3rd period, stepped-up the challenge.

HOW TO OPEN A COMBINATION LOCK

by Princess, Period 2

This paragraph tells how you use a combination lock. To open it depends on your number. First you turn right twice to clear the lock. Turn the dial to the clockwise/right to open and it. To get the lock open, depends on your number. For instance: if your number was 9-8-7 you would go to the right first and stop at 9. Next, you go left twice, pass up the 8 and stop at 8 the second time you come to it. Finally, go right once and stop at the 7. Then you pull it open. That is how you use a combination lock.

Nice, job, Princess! After students had written these early "explanatory paragraphs," they learned about graphic organizers, and prewriting. The students were able to select their own topics, describing to the reader "How to do something."

HOW TO HULA HOOP

by Arianna, Period 1

Do you know how to Hula Hoop? If you don't know how to Hula Hoop these are the steps. First you swing your hips side to side. Next, you put the Hula Hoop around your waste. Then swing your hips side to side again. Last, you can Hula Hoop any way you want. This is how you **HULA HOOP**.

HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN STYLE

by Hadessah, Period 1

Do you like to go shopping? Do you like to dress your best? Well, this paragraph is all about finding your own sense of personal style. First, you need to check your closet. Next, mix ‘n match clothes to find your look. Keep trying on clothes until your outfit makes you say “This is SO ME!!!!!!” Afterwards, put up your hair to go with your outfit or put on hair accessories or headbands in your hair. After you are done with that, you can put on jewelry to glamour the look, or you can put on lip-gloss or makeup (This step is optional). Finally, show off your style and ignore the nasty comments, because if you like it, it doesn’t matter what other people say. Show off your look and be proud of it!

Nice job, Hadessah! Next, Latavia explains what a student should consider when getting ready for a dance lesson.

HOW TO GET READY FOR DANCE LESSON

by Latavia, Period 1

Here is one way to get ready for dance. First, you need to have dance clothes and shoes. You need to point your feet, and the most important thing is to have your hair in a bun. Never be late for class and do not eat before class. That is all for now.

MAKE SOME KOOL-AID

by Marie, Period 1

My topic is Kool-Aid. My topic is about Kool-Aid, because I know how to make it. First, you get a cup. Then, you put water in the cup. Next you put the Kool-Aid in the cup. Then you mix it really good. This is good and it is done.

HOW TO MAKE A BURGER

by Terrion, Period 2

Burgers are very good. I prefer burgers over all food. They are juicy and very good. This is the way to make a good burger. First, you get the meat for the burger. Then, you set the timer to 360 after you press bake. In the middle of the cooking you stop to put whatever you need on it. Then, you let it finish out cooking. Afterwards, you put on cheese to style it. Finally, you decorate it and make it look good. Now you know the steps to a good hamburger.

*Terrion, we’re getting hungry reading your paragraph! By the way, did we mention that everyone wrote their paragraphs using pencil, pen and paper. **Typing** these paragraphs using one of the 6 desk-top computers in their writing class was “optional.” A special thanks to all the students who went that extra mile to share their writing in this newsletter!*

Finally, if you were living under a rock on August 21, 2017 you might have missed the solar eclipse that passed through town for the first time in 400 years.

Thanks to Principal Taylor for making it possible for students to go outside on that historic Monday in August to bask in that memory-making phenomenon. Naturally, both before and after the Eclipse, students wrote about the amazing astronomical event in their ELA, Step Up to Writing Class.



Even the adults are amazed. 8-21-17. The solar eclipse is visible in St. Louis. Ms. Hill of TRIO, Ms. Tuggle, building Curriculum Coach, Ms. Pennington, one of our building facility technicians, and an SLPS safety officer bask in the awesome moments the moon passes before the sun and blocks sunlight to the earth. The sky grew dark. Street lamps came on. It was, truly, something to behold.!

THE INCREDIBLE SOLAR ECLIPSE AT CLVPA

by Christian, Period 3

A solar eclipse happened in St. Louis on August 21, 2017. A solar eclipse is when the moon gets in front of earth and blocks out the sun. You will need some special glasses to look at it so you won't go blind. If you take off your glasses in the middle of the solar eclipse and stare at the sun, you will go blind.

When the moon passes in front of the sun it will turn dark for a few minutes and the sun is going be back. The solar eclipse was in the United States on Monday, August 21, 2017.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

by Jahziah, Period 3

The solar eclipse is very rare. The solar eclipse is when the moon gets in front of the earth and blocks out the sun, and it gets black. You have to use special glasses so your eyes won't get damaged. We saw a solar eclipse at school on August 21, 2017 with special glasses they gave us at school.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

by Joseph, Period 3

After the "SOLAR ECLIPSE" I'm going to be playing my game Halo-4. I play that game because of the solar eclipse. The solar eclipse reminds me of aliens. The solar eclipse is when a

full moon goes in between the sun and the earth. It gets really dark, and, trust me, “I HATE” the dark! We wear glasses to protect our eyes from the sun when we look at it during the solar eclipse on August, 21, 2017.

MY SOLAR ECLIPSE

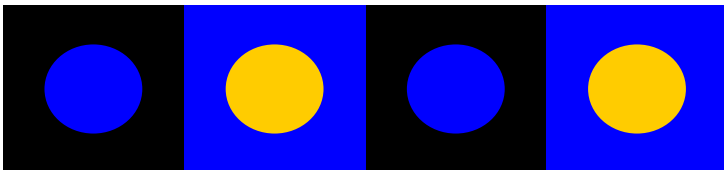
by Aariah, Period 2

I will tell you how the American Solar Eclipse occurs. When a solar eclipse occurs, the sun falls in its place behind the moon. As it goes, the sky slowly turns yellow. Then black. As the sun falls back from the moon, the color of the sky reverses back. Black then yellow. That's how the American Solar Eclipse will look.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

by Princess, Period 2

I don't know all about the solar eclipse, but you can hurt your eyes if you look at it because of the energy waves from the sun. I hear the temperature will drop 15 degrees, but you never know what can happen. I hear that bats, owls, and fireflies will come out and swirl in a circle. That is what I know about the Solar Eclipse that will come on Monday, August 21, 2017 at our school.



Students used their writing skills to share information about some of the skills and content they have been studying in their classes. Graphic organizers and paragraph organization were two, major topics:

HOW TO USE DIFFERENT GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

By Arin, Period 2

I am going to tell you about different graphic organizers that can help you with different things. The Venn diagram can help you organize information to show similarities and the differences. The flow chart shows you the steps of anything or cause and effect. The bubble web helps you brainstorm and you can write your ideas down. The classification map is used to show relationships, or you can use it to organize something. That is how you use the graphic organizers.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

by Leah, Period 1

Graphic organizers are tools writers use to visually represent their thoughts and ideas.

A Venn diagram is used to organize information to show similarities and differences. It can also be used to compare and contrast different subjects. The way to make it is to make two circles that over-lap. A flow chart is used to show a sequence of events, or steps to a process. It could also be used to show cause and effect. The way to make it is to make it arrows

writing the events in order. A bubble web is often used for brainstorming supporting details or ideas around a central main idea. The way to make a bubble web is to make a circle and put the main idea in it and draw lines and put circles around details. finally, a classified map. It is used to show the relationship. It is also used to organize, rank and classify the main and supporting details or ideas.

Graphic organizers are an easy way to write, essays, paragraphs, and sentences.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

By Hadessah, Period 1

Today, I will be writing about graphic organizers or otherwise known as 'GO'. "Graphic organizers are tools writers use to visually represent their thoughts and ideas." Graphic organizers help organize your ideas. They provide a visual guide to writing. Read on to find out more.

There are four different graphic organizers. The first one is a Venn diagram. You have probably heard about it before. A Venn diagram is used to organize information by comparing and contrasting (or comparing differences). The Venn diagram is a great tool.

Another graphic organizer is a flow chart. "A flow chart may be used to show a sequence of events, or steps in a process." A flow chart is just arrows big enough to write in pointing to the right.

The next graphic organizer is a bubble web. "A bubble web is often used to brainstorm supporting details or ideas around a central main idea." The bubble in the middle is the main idea. The bubbles surrounding it are the supporting details/ideas.

The next and last graphic organizer is a classification map. "A classification map can be used to show the relationship." This 'GO' is how you classify things. You would use it to classify main and supporting ideas/details.

Now, you know all about 'GO's, or graphic organizers. You may use them to organize or classify all things. So, enjoy the new information you have gained. Good Luck!

HOW TO WRITE A PARAGRAPH

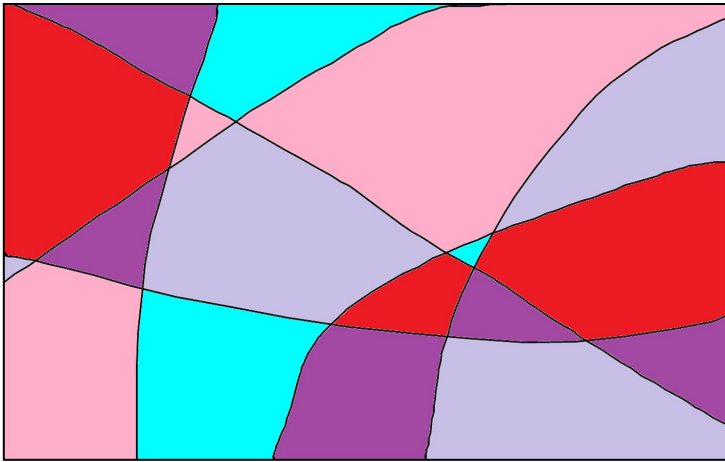
By Leah, Period 1

Do you know how to write a paragraph? If you don't, you are in luck, because I am going to tell you how. The first step to writing a paragraph is to write the topic sentence, like I have at the beginning of this paragraph. The second step is to write three supporting details. I'm giving you a supporting detail right now! The last step is to write a concluding sentence that stays on topic. This is how you write a paragraph.

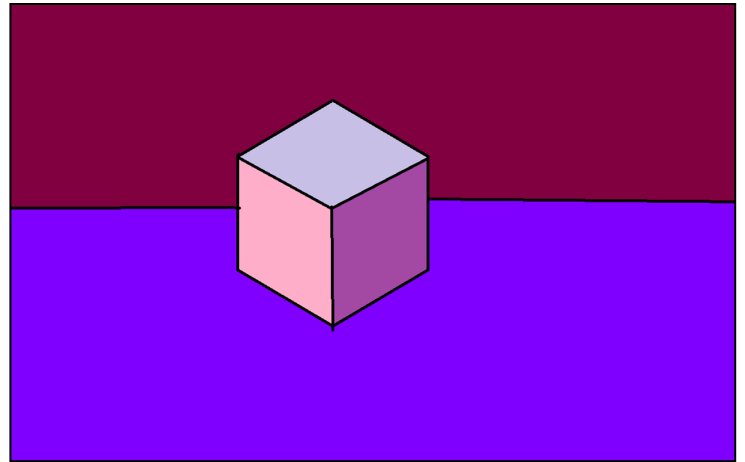
Thanks to Leah for this clever, self-reflexive paragraph — and thanks to all 6th grade students who contributed to the newsletter!

COMPUTER GRAPHICS

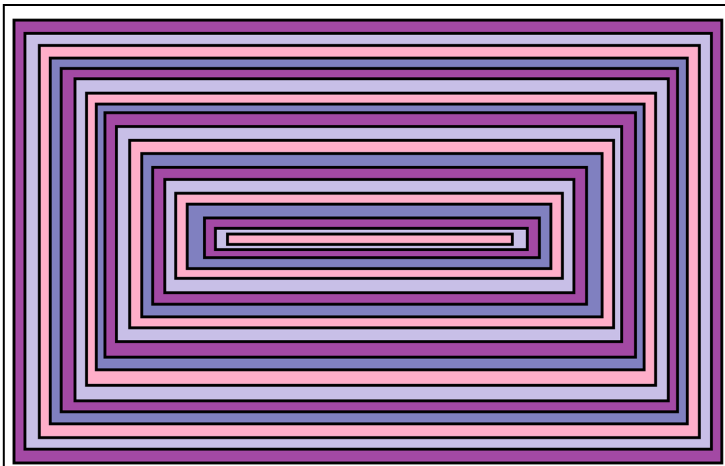
A multi-billion dollar industry, computer graphics supplement traditional, written text. In one unit of their computer literacy classes, Carr Lane VPA scholars use a simple computer graphics program (Microsoft Paint) to learn some of the vocabulary, terms, and tools of the visual realm. Recently, students learned about objects, horizon lines, foregrounds, and backgrounds in a variety of lessons in Computer Literacy. In these drawings, students mastered programming tools — fill with color, line, shape, text, curve and standard brush.



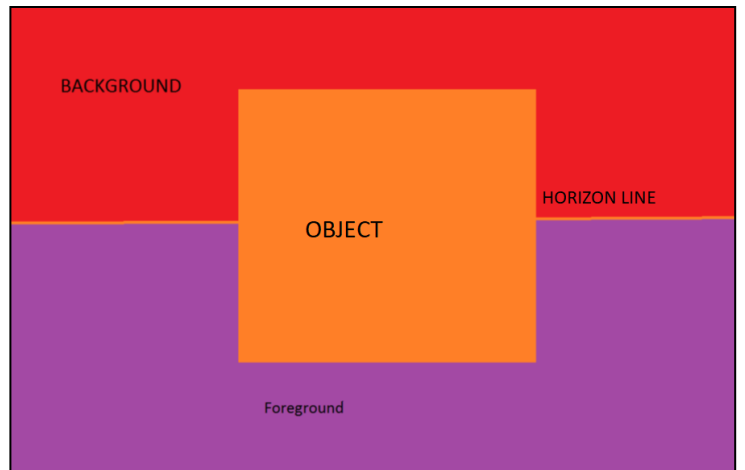
“Mosaic,” by Gabrielle, Grade 7



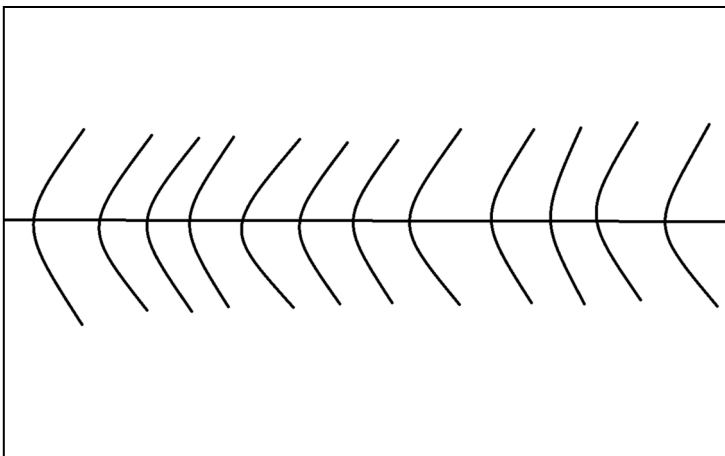
“Solid,” by Gabrielle



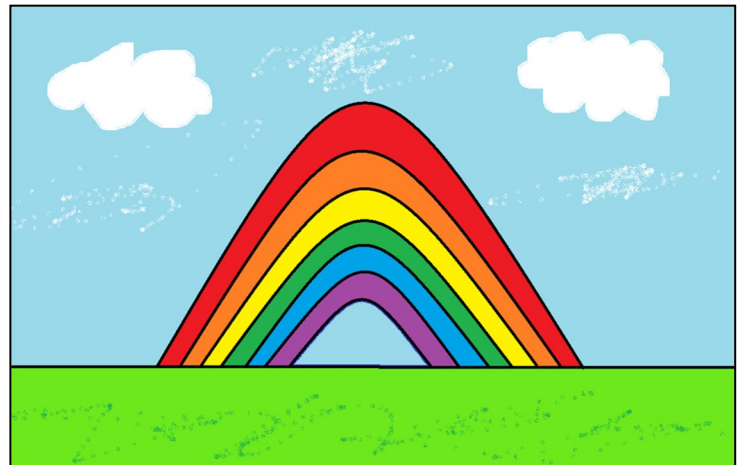
“Frames,” by Gabrielle



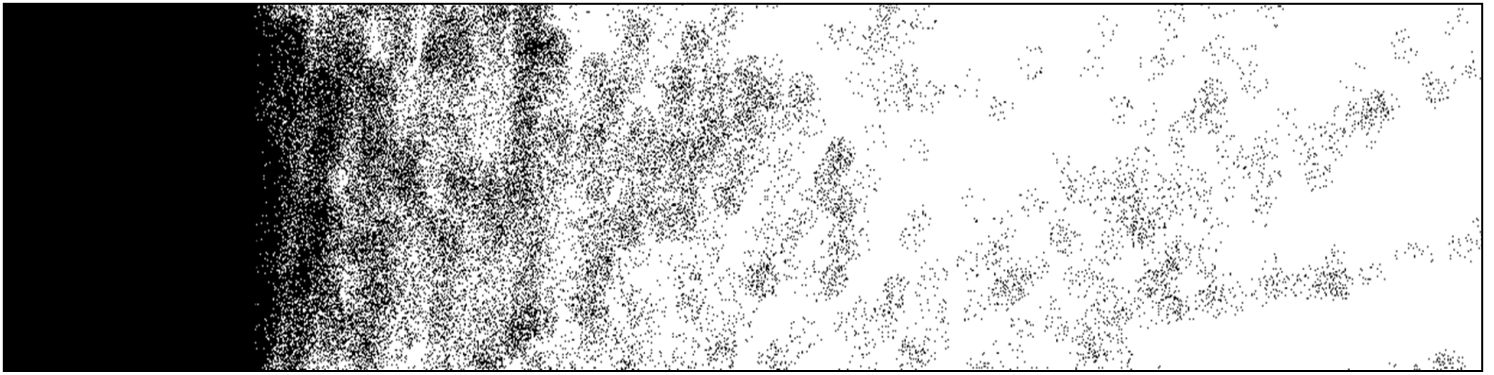
“Object,” by Marion, Grade 7



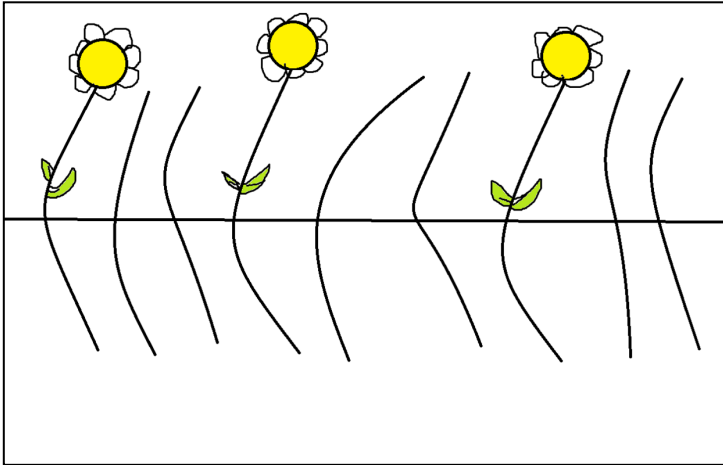
“Fishbone,” by MacKenzie, Grade 7



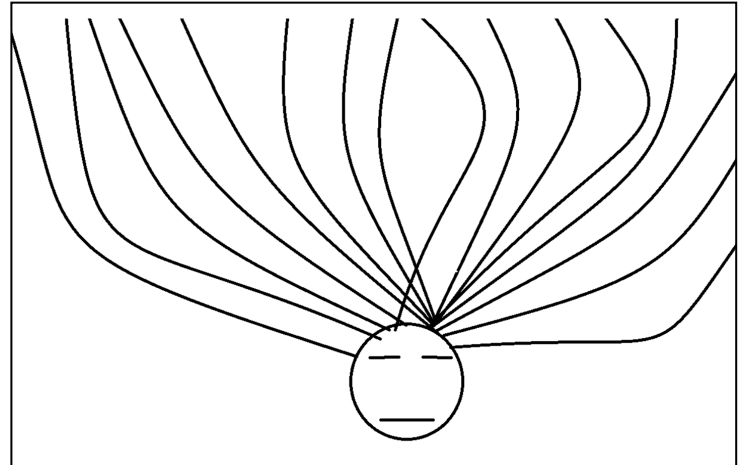
“Rainbow,” by MacKenzie



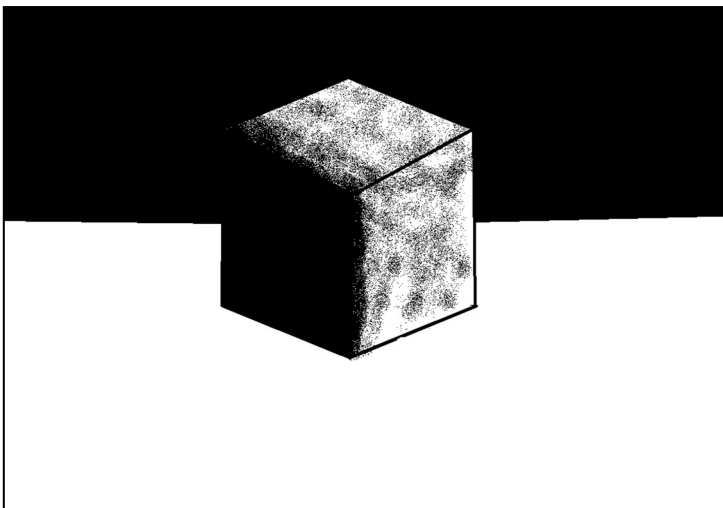
“Twilight Zone,” by McKenzie



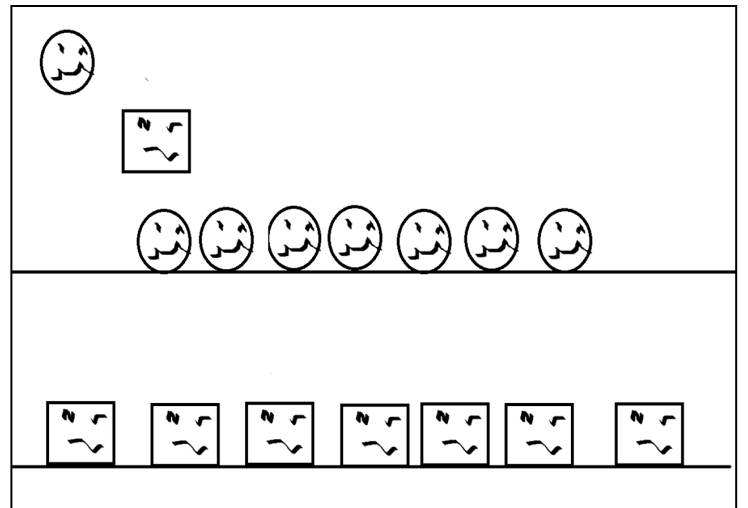
“Field of Flowers,” by Gabrielle



“Wavy Mavy,” by Luvel, Grade 7

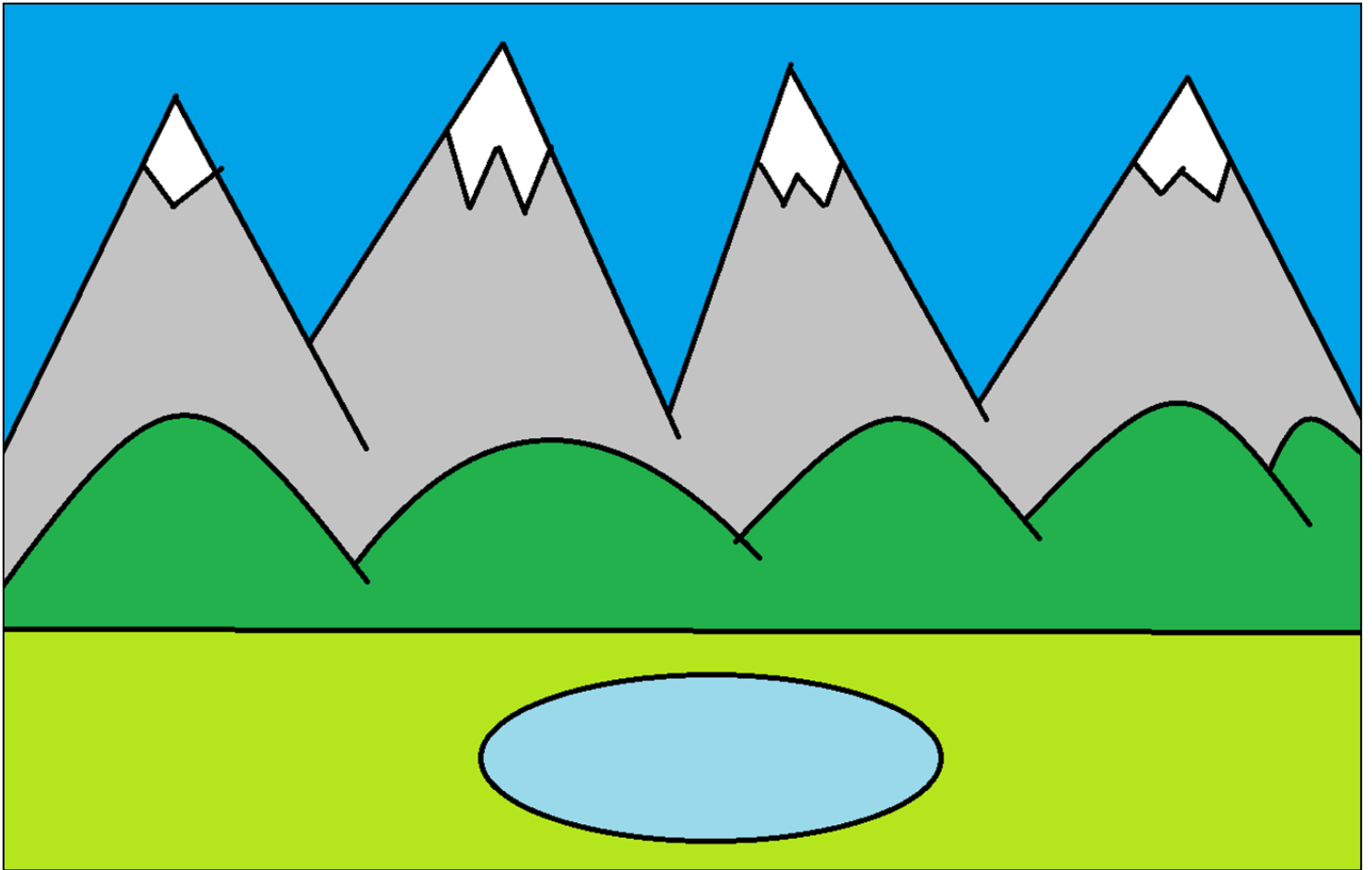


“Shaded Cube,” by MacKenzie

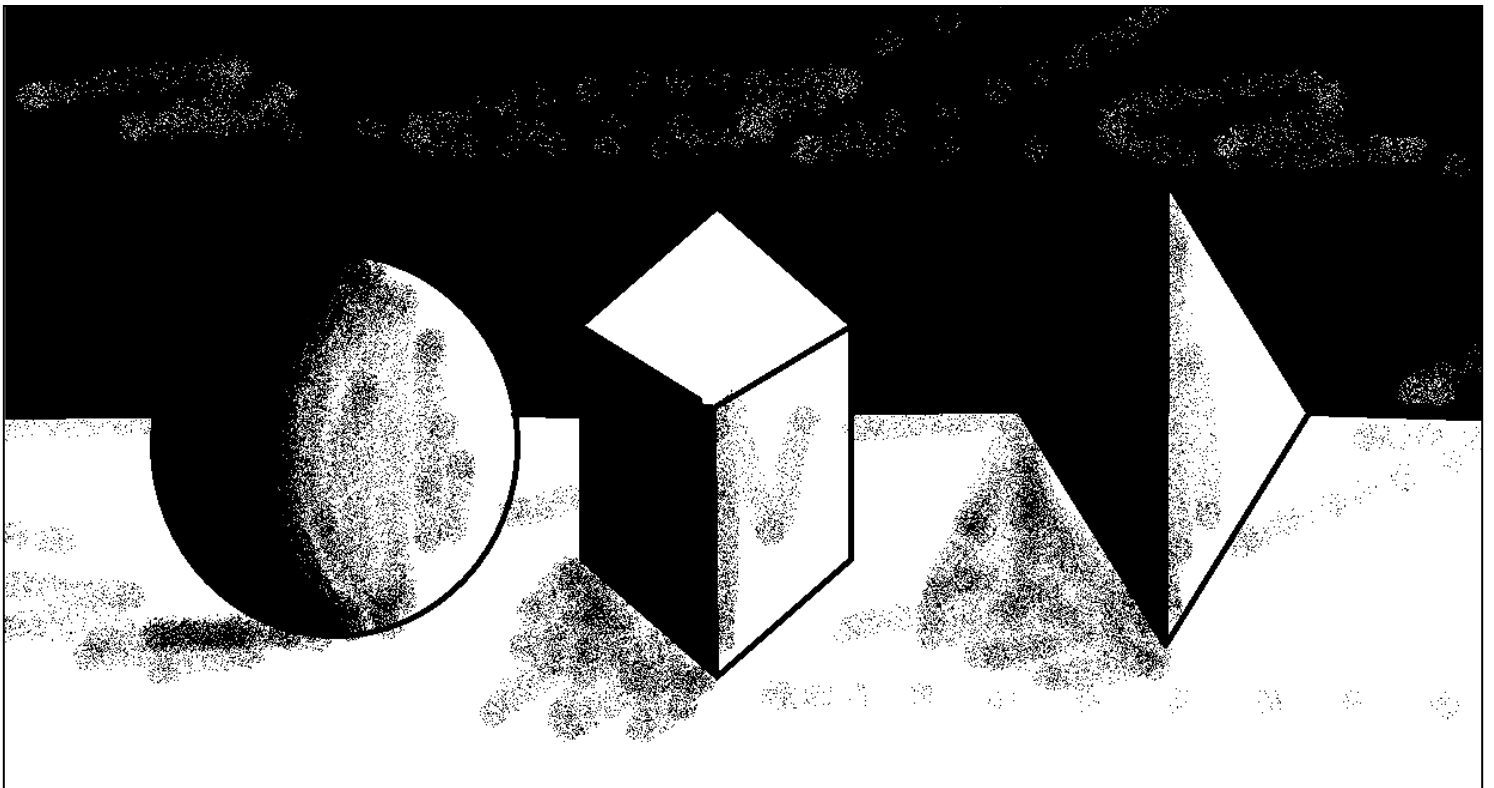


“Birds on a Wire,” by Luvel

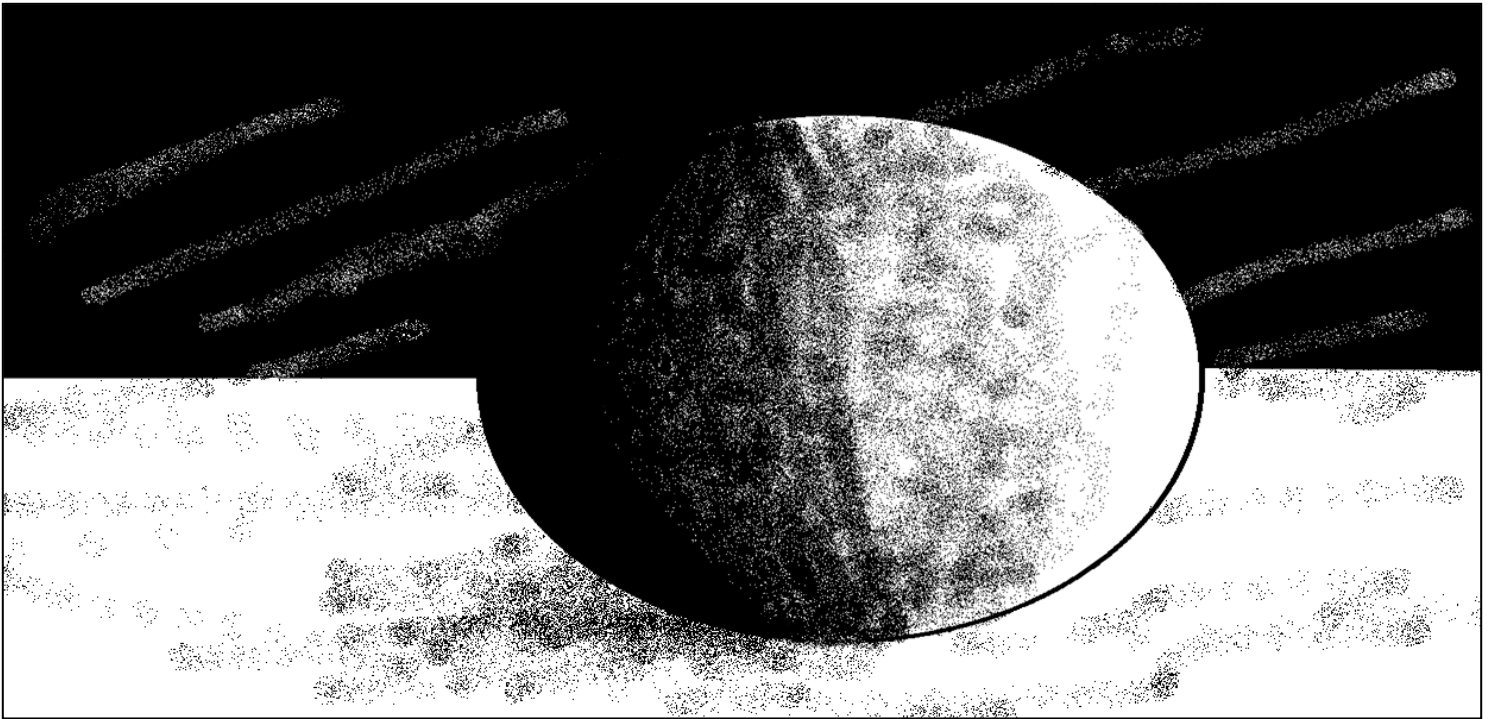
Students study light, shade and shadow using brush set to “air brush.” They learn the difference between “shapes” and “solids.” transparent and opaque objects and the ways that light and the absence of light can be used to define 3-dimensional objects. Students also learn how to replicate images using the selection tool set to “transparent” in “Birds on a Wire.” Elsewhere in this issue, you’ll see those same technical tools and processes used to create a field of identical, 3-dimensional, symmetrical cubes in “crystal fractal,” ranks and rows of lighted windows in “City Scene,” and, with some variation, in “Pumpkin Patch.”



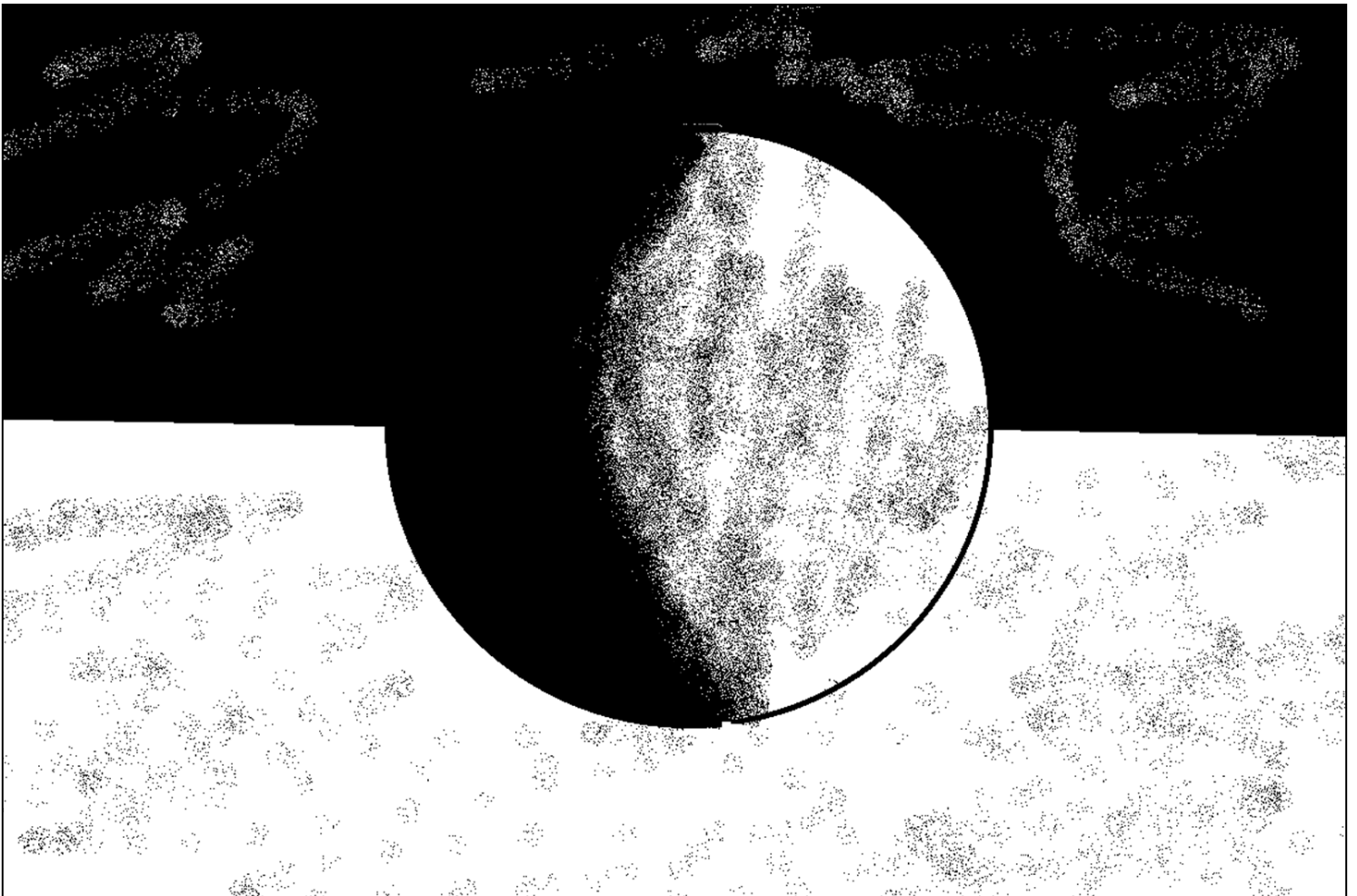
“Country,” by Gabrielle



3 Solids with Shade and Shadow, by MacKenzie



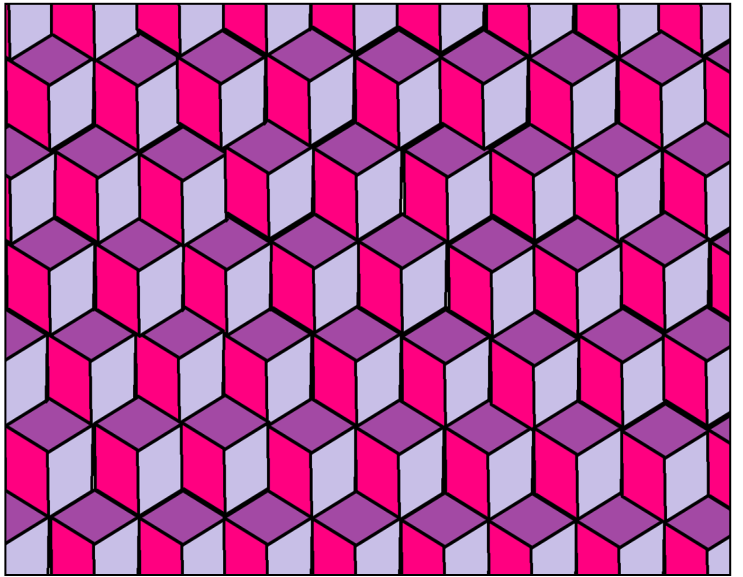
“Moon,” by Marion



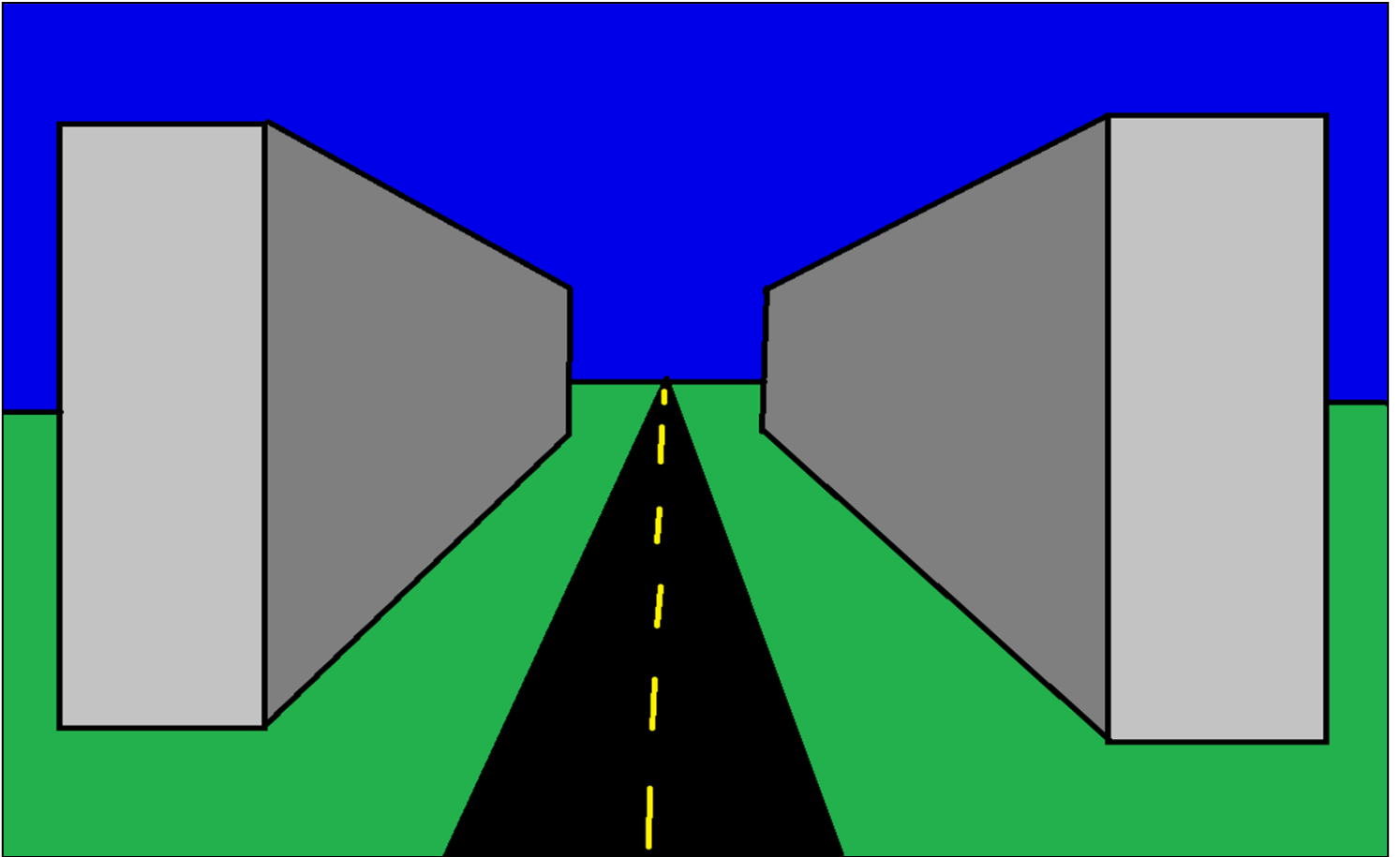
“Moon,” by MacKenzie



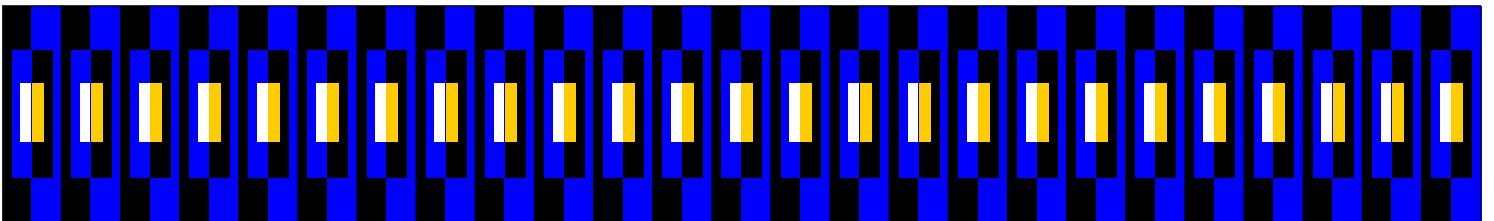
“Patterns,” by MacKenzie

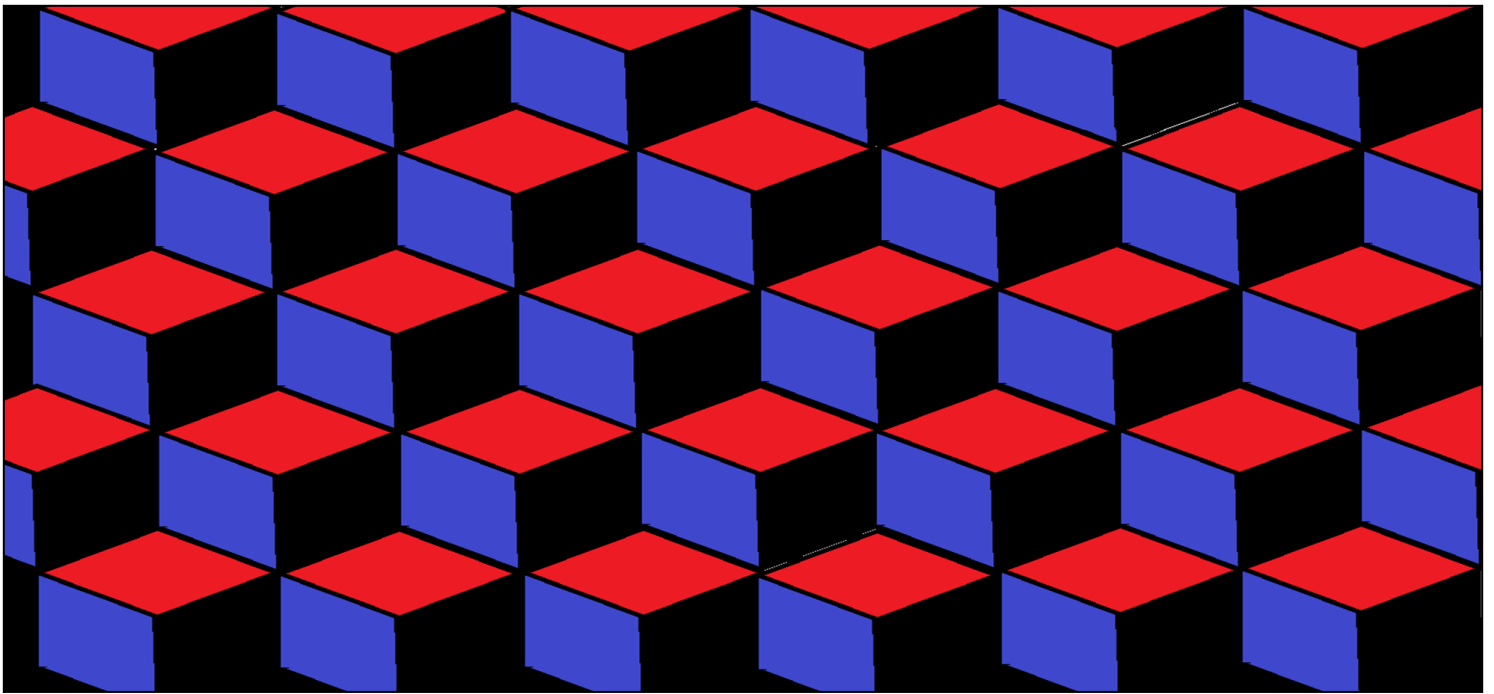


“Crystal Fractals,” by Gabrielle

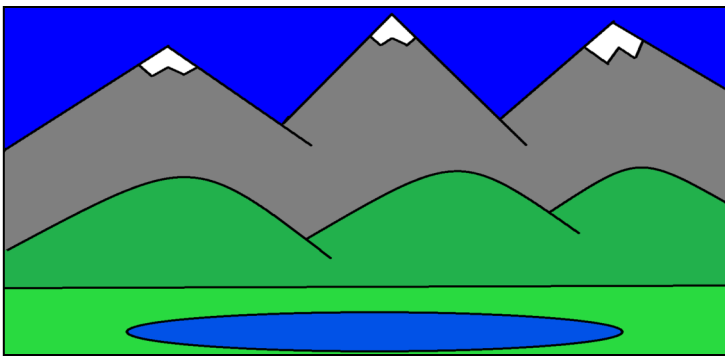


“Vanishing Point,” by Marion

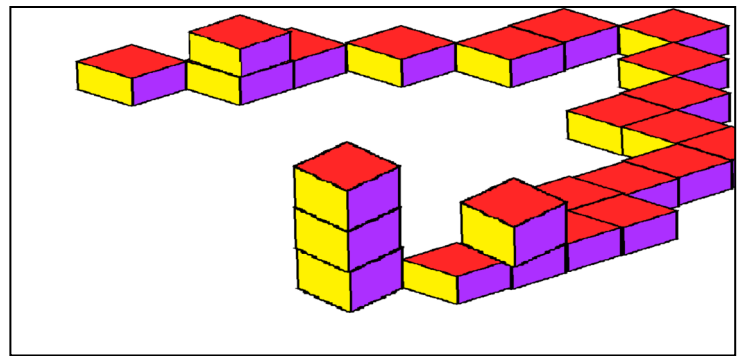




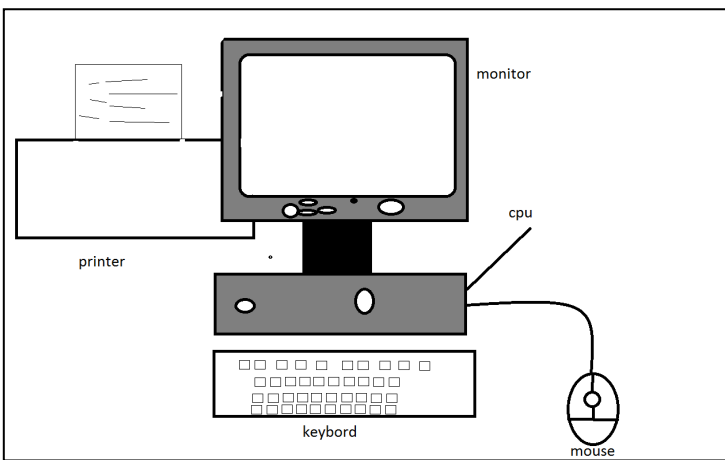
“Crystal Fractals,” by Marion who uses transparent selection, copy and paste to generate a field of cubes. This field was created from a SINGLE symmetrical cube. Watch the cubes “flip” with the red diamond, alternating between the “top” and “bottom.”



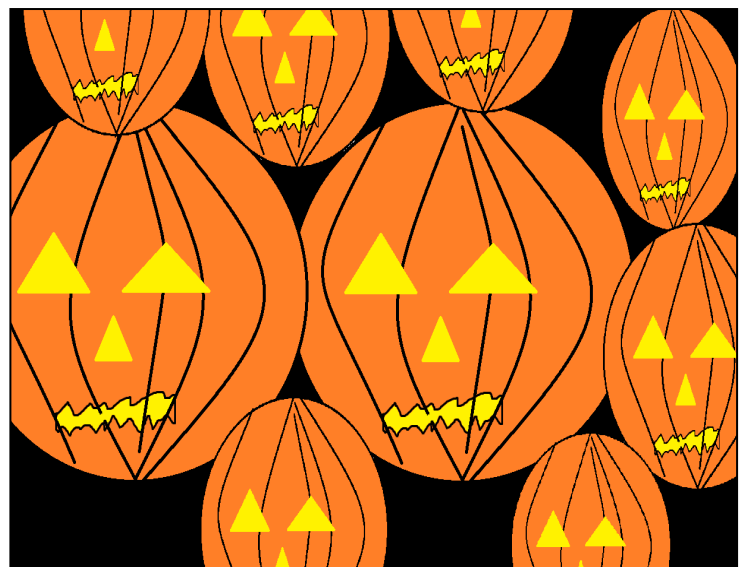
“Country,” by Marion, a study in line, curve, shape and color



“Castle Ruin,” by Marion



7th Grade Computer Literacy Student, Caiden gets ready for his Project Lead The Way Computer Science Innovators and Makers Unit with his original computer graphics diagram of a computer and its peripherals. Here is an assignment from his 7th Grade “A-Day” classroom, the graphic image “Computer!”



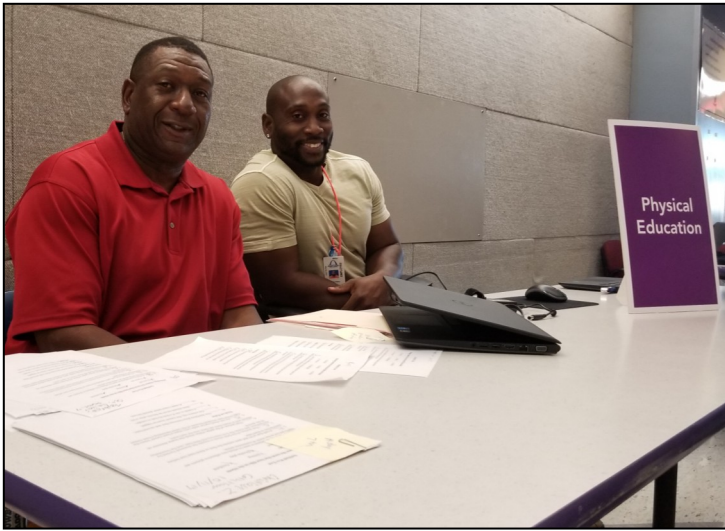
7th Grade Student Theodore, share his Pumpkin Patch!



“House,” by Carlton Williams, 8th Grade Computer Literacy



“Lighthouse,” by Carlton



Coaches Banks and Folkes at Fall Parent/Teacher conferences.



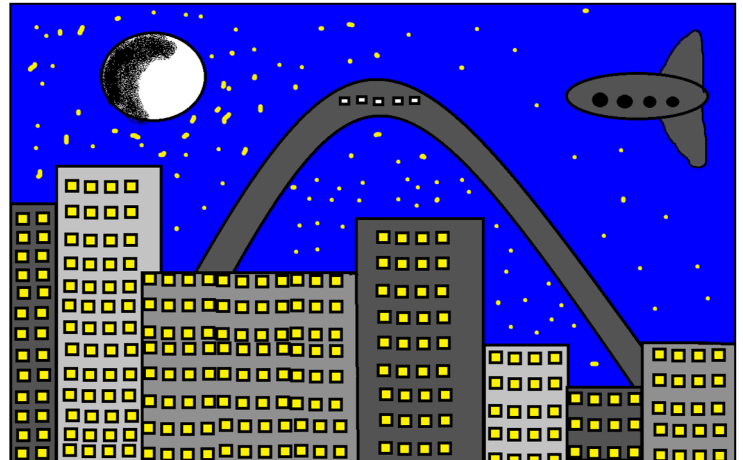
Ms. Parker (Dance) and Ms. Choate (Art) at the conferences.



7th Grader, MacKenzie, uses the transparent selection tool, copy, paste and the “resizing” functions to create a field of pumpkins in “Pumpkin Patch,” the same basic tools that Hollywood movie-makers use to create fields of monsters and aliens (based on only a handful of designs) battling in such block-buster epics as Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and The Avengers. Computer Graphics, you bet!



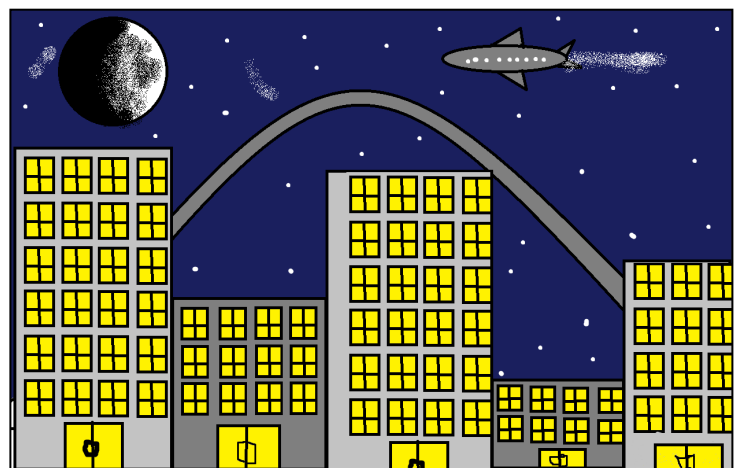
“City Scene,” by 7th Grade Student, Niya



City Scene,” by 7th Grade Student, Kalyah



8th Grader Carlton Williams shares another ideal house!



“City Scene,” by Mackenzie



7th Grader, Marion’s own version of Pumpkin Patch!



MIB Agents on Halloween Day, October 31, 2017!



CLVPA Band on stage for the Fall Festival, October 31, 2017!

Carr Lane VPA News & Views
November 2017 — Issue 1

News and Views is published by the 6th Grade Writing Classes from Room 307 with the help and support of the Carr Lane Fine Arts Team and students, teachers and staff throughout the building. Look for our Winter Break Issue!